

**TECHNOLOGY ISSUES IN SRI LANKAN FRUIT  
SECTOR: THE CASE OF MANGO, PAPAYA AND  
PINEAPPLE**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Modern technology in fruit processing is one of the main factors determining the quality and the productivity. efficiencies in the processes and products. Processing technologies name as freezing, cryogenic freezing (Individual Quick Frozen), dehydration and ready-to drink (RTD) are the modern technologies available in the technology market ,which can be used as a tool to take competitive advantages over the competitors from international market. This paper examines the technology issues in fruit processing industry in Sri Lanka from the points of view of quality, efficiency, productivity, assesses our level of technology and the marketing with compared to international level.

The fruit producing sector is one of the significant and dynamic contributors to Sri Lanka's overall economy. It has a high-income elasticity of demand in contrast to other farm produce. Besides the few medium and large farms, fruits are mainly coming from many small-growers; as such the improving of this industry would directly affect the quality of life of the rural communities in Sri Lanka. But the key bottleneck in these fruit produce is; the processing industries' technology and technological capabilities for value-added fruit processing have no sufficient strengths to compete with the international market because of the setbacks in the processes' and products' technologies which are being presently practiced in the local processing fruit manufacture industry and the practicing methods of quality standard!, the unawareness of the modern quality practices .the labour handling principles and insufficient government intervention.

Therefore, this case study emphasizes to find the key important factors pertaining to the technology issues in fruit processing industry in relating to the dehydrated and IQF tropical fruits from the various angles such as technology management, transferring mechanism, quality standard practices government policies, human resources availability and management, etc., and propose solutions for them to improve the overall Sri Lankan fruit processing industry which should be ready to penetrate the marketing systems of the rich nations sooner.